

THE GARDEN ISLAND

Issued Every Tuesday Morning

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Editor

TUESDAY

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Belt Road First Of All.

More careful figuring shows that if money should be taken from the county's general fund in order that the proposed new Lihue school building be hastily completed, it would probably be necessary to postpone the work of finishing up the belt road, so called, for, perhaps, a couple of years.

This is a phase of the matter which was not taken into consideration last week when the recommendations of Superintendent Kinney were being discussed; and if the situation is as has been stated, it will doubtless be generally regretted.

If it should come to a "show down", however, between the new Lihue school building (or any other school building, for the matter of that) and the proposed belt road, we say give us the belt road. Although much in need of the new building, Lihue will recognize the fact, we feel sure, that a servicable road all the way from Mana to Hanalei is more urgent just now; while the rest of the island will undoubtedly agree that that is so.

Broadly speaking, we would not view with favor any proposition now in sight on this island which might delay, even for a short time, the completion of the road to Hanalei. At the same time we are much in favor of the early completion of the proposed new Lihue school house, and hope that some means may be found to put it through, also, with the belt road.

Blunders Of The Allies.

The future historian will likely dwell long on the blunders of Great Britain in the present war in the matter of her expeditionary campaigns. To the outside world these features of the war have appeared among its most remarkable incidents.

First came the sending of a small detachment of men into Belgium to meet an enormous army. This was so fool-hardy as to appear almost appalling. Scarcely less of a blunder, however, has been the entire Gallipoli campaign, in which tens of thousands of lives have been sacrificed without a thing to show for them. A third fearful blunder was the sending of a wholly inadequate force far up into Mesopotamia to attack Bagdad. That detachment, moving directly into the jaws of the Turkish army, can hope for little less than annihilation, if it has not already met that fate.

Now we have the complete failure of the expedition, sent forward with a blare of trumpets, as it were, from Salonika to crush the invading Tenthons in Serbia. That this campaign was a miserable failure from the beginning is now fully apparent; and it is plain that there was no military fitness or genius behind it.

There has been a great deal of talk throughout the world about what has been termed the lack of training of the British soldier and the unpreparedness of the Allies. In the light of the events above referred to it would appear to the onlooker that the failing has not been with the soldier at all, nor the lack of facilities, but has been the result of the incapacity of the higher-ups. Strategically, the Allies have attempted a number of promising moves in the war game, but through official blundering they have all come to naught.

It begins to look as though what the Allies need more than training camps for soldiers are training kindergartens for war lords.

MR. FRED J. HALTON, San Francisco representative of the Hawaii Promotion Committee, toured Kauai last week and, upon his departure, seemed quite enthusiastic regarding this as a favorable field for large tourist development. If the people of this island really care to have a share of the tourist business, and hold it, it will be necessary to do a very great number of things, not the least of which is providing efficient guides for parties. Only a short time since, the story goes, a tourist engaged a local auto driver to take him to Waimea. "How far is it?" asked the stranger. "Ten dollars," replied the brilliant chauffeur. And that was the last intelligible utterance from the chauffeur in the entire ride of thirty miles.

THE RETURN of China to a monarchical status will undoubtedly be the signal for a revolution of enormous proportions, and other nations may be involved before it is over. Although the question of republic or monarchy was submitted to the people of China, it is generally known that the voting was directed by Yuan Shih Kai, who had the dictator bee in his bonnet; and it is next to certain that the better educated and more progressive element of China, which supported the republic, will not surrender without a desperate fight. Should the European war subside somewhat under the snows of winter, the world will probably still not lack war news, for there is promise of much excitement in the Far East to "fill in" with.

IT WOULD BE a fine thing if the principal papers read before the Kauai Historical Society in the past twelve months or more could be printed together in a neat pamphlet for permanent preservation by members and others. The paper entitled "The History of Lihue," several papers on Koloa, one or two on subjects in and about Waimea and others regarding general historical facts having to do with Kauai would form a collection of value and importance to any local library. Perhaps it might be well enough to wait awhile, add other forthcoming papers to the collection and make the booklet larger and more complete; but it certainly should not be omitted altogether.

WE HOPE that the decline in the price of sugar to figures below five cents may not lessen the Christmas cheer in the homes of our beautiful island. Of course it is hard to reconcile ourselves to such a weak market, but we will probably be able to get along somehow. If sugar were seven cents, or even six and a half, we might be able to afford a few more Christmas presents, but—let us be optimists!

INsofar AS Kauai is concerned, tourist promotion should begin at the beginning, and the beginning at the moment is to be found in the question of transportation between Honolulu and the ports of this island. If the Hawaii Promotion Committee will confine its endeavors for a time to larger and better steamers for the Kauai run, we would think more hopefully of the prospects.

MR. MORAGNE deserves the thanks of the community for the extreme vigor with which he has taken charge of the road situation since his return from abroad. With limited facilities, he has taken in hand many miles of road at a clip and already there is an immense improvement all along the line.

TWO DIFFERENT autos, returning to the Waimea side from the entertainment in Lihue Saturday night, collided with cows on the road in the Kalahao neighborhood, and in both instances bad accidents were narrowly escaped. And still the county fathers hesitate in regard to that estray ordinance.

CO-OPERATE WITH the efforts of the Kauai Chamber of Commerce, support the local battalion of the National Guard and encourage inter-community social affairs. By so doing, much in the aggregate will be accomplished for the island.

PRESIDENT WILSON states that Senator Martine, of New Jersey, is a joke and should not be re-elected. While on Kauai last May a great many people reached the conclusion that the New Jersey senator was about the biggest hot-air merchant that had ever struck this beach.

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